

16 July 1970



New U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia

WASHINGTON—President Richard Nixon has decided to name Emory Coblenz Swank as U.S. Ambassador to the Lon Nol regime in Cambodia. Cambodia broke off diplomatic relations with the U.S. in 1965 charging that the Central Intelligence Agency was plotting to oust then-chief of state, Prince Norodom Sihanouk. U.S.-Cambodian relations were restored in July, 1969, but no U.S. ambassador was appointed. The new Nixon move is seen as more military than diplomatic in nature, and Swank will probably serve as a military and intelligence chief for U.S. operations in Cambodia, much as the U.S. envoy to Laos does at present.

Swank, 48, is listed in the book, "Who's Who in the CIA" (Berlin, 1968), as being involved in CIA work since 1955. In that year, he was made deputy chief of the Soviet and East European section of the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research. He was U.S. Consul-General in Vientiane, Laos in 1964-65, and has also served in Shanghai and Tsingtao (China), Djakarta, Indonesia, Moscow, and Bucharest, Romania.